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REFERENCE TO: Mission 1107

AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION
IRAQ

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AIRFIELD AND 16 AIRSTRIPS WILL ALLOW GREATER DISPERSAL OF IRAQI AIRCRAFT AND REDUCE THEIR VULNERABILITY TO PRE-EMPTIVE AIRSTRIKES.

2. LOCATION:

(THE NUMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING AIR FACILITIES ARE KEYED TO THE MAP ON GRAPHIC.)

1., 2., AND 3.

TIKRIT AIRFIELD AND AIRSTRIPS - 9.5 NM WNW OF TIKRIT AND 95 NM NNW OF BAGHDAD AT 3440N 04331E.

4. SAMARRA AIRSTRIP - 10.5 NM ESE OF SAMARRA AT 3408N 04404E.

5. JALULA AIRSTRIP - 2 NM WEST OF JALULA AT 3416N 04507E.

6. AL KHALIS AIRSTRIP - 9 NM NORTH OF AL KHALIS AT 3400N 04430E.

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7. BAQUBAH AIRSTRIP - 3 NM NW OF BAQUBAH
AT 3347N 04436E.
8. BALAT RUZ AIRSTRIP EAST - 4 NM ESE OF
BALAT RUZ AT 3341N 04508E.
9. BALAT RUZ AIRSTRIP SE - 6 NM SE OF BALAT
RUZ AT 3338N 04510E.
10. NASIR AIRSTRIP - 8 NM NNE OF NASIR AT
3309N 04446E.
11. SALMAN PAK AIRSTRIP - 6 NM NE OF SALMAN
PAK AT 3310N 04439E.
12. AL ISKANDARIYAH AIRSTRIP - 3.2 NM NW OF
AL ISKANDARIYAH AT 3259N 04416E.
13. KARBALA AIRSTRIP NE - 9.5 NM NE OF KARBALA
AT 3245N 04407E.
14. KARBALA AIRSTRIP WEST - 3 NM WEST OF
KARBALA AT 3237N 04358E.
15. AL KUT AIRSTRIP - 7 NM NE OF AL KUT AT
3235N 04554E.
16. AL KUFAH AIRSTRIP - 2.5 NM SOUTH OF AL
KUFAH AT 3159N 04424E.

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17. SHUAYBAH AIRSTRIP - 9 NM WEST OF
SHUAYBAH AT 3023N 04729E.

3. REMARKS:

PRIOR TO THIS MISSION, THE ONLY NEW AIRFIELDS TO BE IDENTIFIED IN IRAQ SINCE THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR WERE THREE SATELLITE AIRFIELDS AND A HIGHWAY AIRSTRIP THAT SERVE AS DISPERSAL FIELDS FOR IRAQ'S WESTERNMOST AIRBASE, H-3. AS IN OTHER ARAB STATES, IRAQ HAS PROVIDED FURTHER PROTECTION FOR ITS AIRCRAFT WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF AT LEAST 74 HARDENED AIRCRAFT SHELTERS OR HANGARETTES AT EIGHT OF ITS AIRFIELDS.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THESE NEW AIRSTRIPS, 15 OF WHICH ARE LOCATED WITHIN 100 NM OF BAGHDAD, PROBABLY REFLECTS IRAQ'S CONCERN WITH THE DELIVERY IN THE NEAR FUTURE OF THE F-4 PHANTOM TO ISRAEL. THIS AIRCRAFT WILL PROVIDE ISRAEL FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH THE CAPABILITY OF REACHING BAGHDAD. AN ADDITIONAL PROBLEM FOR IRAQ HAS BEEN THE INTENSIFICATION SINCE APRIL OF THE SHATT AL-ARAB RIVER

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DISPUTE WITH IRAN. SHOULD THE DISPUTE EVER REACH THE LEVEL OF OPEN CONFLICT, THE IRANIAN AIR FORCE, COMPOSED OF F-4 AND F-5 FIGHTERS, WOULD ALSO THREATEN BAGHDAD.

4. COLLATERAL:

IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE THE JUNE 1967 WAR IRAQ HAS DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT IN ITS INVENTORY. HIGHLIGHTS OF DELIVERIES FROM THE SOVIET UNION DURING THIS PERIOD HAVE BEEN THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SU-7 (FITTER) INTO THE IRAQI AOB AND THE DOUBLING OF THE NUMBER OF MIG-21 (FISHBED) THAT WAS PRESENT PRIOR TO THE WAR. [REDACTED]

IRAQI FIGHTER-INVENTORY

	<u>PRE-WAR</u>	<u>WAR LOSS</u>	<u>CURRENT ESTIMATE</u> *
<u>SUPERSONIC</u>			
MIG-21	33	13	71
SU-7	0	0	43
<u>SUBSONIC</u>			
MIG-15/17	13	0	34
HAWKER HUNTER	<u>38</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>35</u>

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IRAQI FIGHTER-INVENTORY (CONT'D)

	<u>PRE-WAR</u>	<u>WAR LOSS</u>	<u>CURRENT ESTIMATE *</u>
TOTAL	84	19	183

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DESPITE THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN FIGHTER AIR-CRAFT, THE IRAQI AIR FORCE IS SERIOUSLY HAMPERED BY SHORTAGES OF QUALIFIED PILOTS, NAVIGATORS, AND OTHER TECHNICIANS. TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION, IRAQI PILOTS ARE BEING TRAINED BOTH IN THE SOVIET UNION AND WITHIN IRAQ, AND 40 L-29 MAYA TRAINERS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED UNDER AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

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5. FIRST IDENTIFICATION: THIS MISSION.

6. NEGATION DATE: THE NEW AIRFIELDS AND AIRSTRIPS HAD EITHER NOT BEEN BEGUN OR WERE IN THE EARLY STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION ON

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7. DIMENSIONS/
SPECIFICATIONS: 1. TIKRIT AIRFIELD - 10,700 X 165-FOOT NNW/SSE

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BLACKTOP AND GRADED-EARTH RUNWAY UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

2. TIKRIT AIRSTRIP - 10,050 X 165-FOOT NNW/SSE
SERVICEABLE GRADED-EARTH AIRSTRIP
3. TIKRIT AIRSTRIP - 8,300 X 165-FOOT NNW/SSE
SERVICEABLE OILED-SAND AIRSTRIP

8. MISSION READOUT: KH 1107 REVEALS THE FOLLOWING:

TIKRIT AIRFIELD AND AIRSTRIPS - A 10,700 X 165-FOOT NNW/SSE BLACKTOP AND
GRADED-EARTH RUNWAY WITH A PARALLEL TAXIWAY WITH TWO END-CONNECTING AND
TWO CROSSOVER LINKS, ALL OF WHICH ARE STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION. A PARALLEL
10,050 X 165-FOOT GRADED-EARTH RUNWAY IS 1 NM EAST OF THE MAIN RUNWAY, AND
A 8,300 X 165-FOOT NNW/ESE OILED-SAND RUNWAY IS 3 NM ESE OF THE MAIN RUNWAY.

OB: NONE

AL KUT AIRSTRIP - A 10,385 X 100-FOOT NNE/SSW OILED-SAND SERVICEABLE RUNWAY
WITH NO FACILITIES.

OB: NONE

THE ONLY AOB OBSERVED AT ANY OF THE REFERENCED AIRSTRIPS IS 1 PROBABLE CAT/CUB
AT BAQUBAH AIRFIELD.

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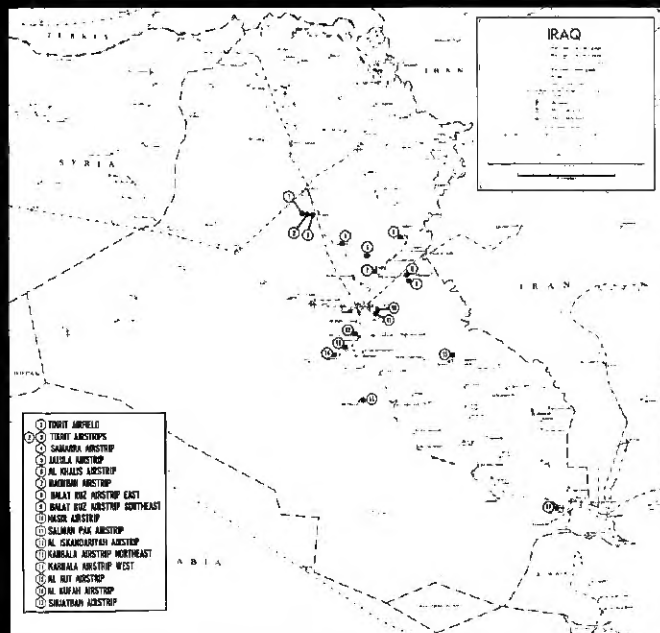
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